

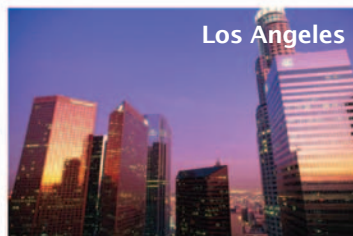
BEYOND the Local Area



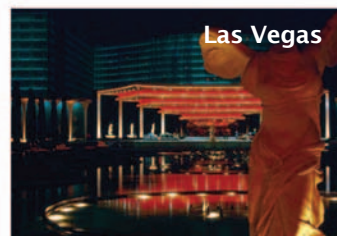
Hollywood



San Diego



Los Angeles



Las Vegas

COMMUNITY PROFILES

Bakersfield, Calif.

Chamber of Commerce

1725 Eye St.

Bakersfield, Calif., 93301, (661) 327-4421

<http://www.bakersfield.org/chamber>

Bakersfield is located in the county of Kern and is the county seat. The City of Bakersfield is located at the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley, which is partially surrounded by three mountain ranges. The Tehachapis to the west, the Sierra Nevadas to the east. The Kern River flows through the valley adding natural beauty to the area. Bakersfield was designated an All-America City in 1990 by the National Civic League.

Kern County is among the leading oil producing counties in the continental United States and the fourth most productive agricultural county in the nation. Grapes, citrus, cotton, dairy and almonds are the top five crops.

Barstow, Calif.

Chamber of Commerce

409 E. Fredericks St., P.O. Box 698

Barstow, Calif., 92311, (760) 256-8617

<http://www.barstowchamber.com>

Barstow is located midway between the popular tourist destinations of Southern California and Las Vegas, Nev., approximately 50 miles east of Edwards. Situated at the crossroads of Interstates 15 and 40, and State Hwys. 58 and 247, the community provides outlet mall shopping with more than 100 outlet stores.

Hollywood, Calif.

Chamber of Commerce

7018 Hollywood Blvd.

Hollywood, Calif., 90028, (323) 469-8311

<http://www.hollywoodchamber.net>

Hollywood is famous as a movie-making town and the home of many stars.

Some of its attractions include Mann's Chinese Theatre, the Walk of Fame, Hollywood studio and back-lot tours, and live filming. Mann's Chinese Theatre is renowned for hosting the handprints and footprints of the entertainment industry's major stars as imprinted in concrete in front of the theater, located at 6925 Hollywood Blvd. A section of the Walk of Fame, where more than 2,000 famous celebrities' names are engraved in stars along the sidewalk, is also found on Hollywood Boulevard. Many sightseeing tours are also available to get a sneak peek at film studios and back-lots, Hollywood landmarks and celebrity homes.

Las Vegas, Nev.

Chamber of Commerce

3720 Howard Hughes Pkwy.

Las Vegas, Nev., 89109-0937, (702) 735-1616

<http://www.lvchamber.com>

Las Vegas is a city that never sleeps and boasts nightlife as its biggest attraction. The city draws more than 35 million visitors annually to its gambling tables, slot machines and big-name entertainment at luxurious hotel casinos along the famous strip.

While much of Las Vegas is restricted to those over 21 years old, it is possible for the whole family to enjoy a visit. Activities for children range from fast action video arcades and water parks to magnificent show productions and the natural and man-made wonders in and around Las Vegas.

Also, within the vicinity of Las Vegas is Lake Mead, just a 30-minute drive away from the city. Sailing, water skiing, wind surfing, motor boating, fishing, swimming and canyon exploring are all readily available for the outdoors enthusiast. Hoover Dam, which created the lake, is considered one of the engineering wonders of the world and may be toured daily.

Las Vegas is located three-and-a-half to four hours northeast of Edwards, a nearly straight shot along California State Hwy. 58 through Barstow to Interstate 15 E. across the state line.

Professional Teams

BASEBALL

Three Major League Baseball teams call Southern California home.

- Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, (888) 796-HALO, <http://www.angelsbaseball.com>
- Los Angeles Dodgers, (800) 636-3437, <http://www.dodgers.com>
- San Diego Padres, (888) MY PADRES, <http://www.padres.com>

BASKETBALL

Two National Basketball Association teams and one Women's NBA team are located in Southern California.

- Los Angeles Lakers, (310) 426-6000, <http://www.lakers.com>
- Los Angeles Clippers, (888) 895-8662, <http://www.clippers.com>
- Los Angeles Sparks, (877) 44-SPARKS, <http://www.wnba.com/sparks>

HOCKEY

Two National Hockey League teams call the Los Angeles area home.

- Los Angeles Kings, (213)-742-7100, <http://www.lakings.com>
- Anaheim Mighty Ducks, (877) WILD WING, <http://www.mightyducks.com>

Los Angeles, Calif.

Los Angeles Area Chamber
of Commerce
350 S. Bixel St.
Los Angeles, Calif., 90017
(213) 580-7500
<http://www.lachamber.org>

Los Angeles is California's largest city, both in population and in territory nearly 470 square miles, is roughly the same size as Edwards. The city ranks second in city and metropolitan area population in the United States. Los Angeles is a collection of intermingling communities, each with its own identity and character.

The area thrives on tourism, world trade and highly diversified industries predominantly oil, electronics, finance, entertainment, real estate, aircraft and aerospace.

Even with 3.7 million residents, Los Angeles is hardly a city in the traditional sense; it lacks a concentrated urban center and rather sprawls on in every direction, from sea and shore to the Hollywood hills. A dense network of interstates grid the basin and support the flux of traffic from dawn 'til dusk.

San Diego, Calif.

San Diego Visitor
Information Center
2688 E. Mission Bay Dr.
San Diego, Calif., 92109
(866) 746-8440
<http://www.infosandiego.com>

Nicknamed "America's Finest City," San Diego is one of the most popular stops for tourists visiting California. For more than 200 years, this city has been attracting visitors from all over the world.

San Diego Bay is a large natural harbor that is pivotal for commerce and for the military presence in the area. The bay is home to the Navy's 3rd Fleet, which houses and maintains its ships and submarines in the harbor. The U.S. Naval and Marine Training Centers and the U.S. Naval Air Station surround the bay.

San Diego is located approximately 180 miles south of Edwards, a straight southern jaunt along Interstate 15 through San Bernardino and Riverside.

AMUSEMENT PARKS & ATTRACTIONS

Disneyland

1313 Harbor Blvd.
Anaheim, Calif., (714) 781-4565
<http://www.disneyland.com>

One of America's favorite amusement parks is located in Anaheim, approximately 130 miles south of Edwards. Disneyland features eight different theme areas: Adventureland, Critter Country, Fantasyland, Frontierland, Main Street, U.S.A., Mickey's Toon Town, New Orleans Square and Tomorrowland. Each area features rides and exhibits to match its theme. Adjacent to Disneyland is Disney's California Adventure theme park, as well as the Downtown Disney District.

Knott's Berry Farm

8039 Beach Blvd.
Buena Park, Calif., (714) 220-5200
<http://www.knotts.com>

This family attraction, located approximately 130 miles south of Edwards, features a variety of thrill rides and theme areas, including Old West Ghost Town, Camp Snoopy, Fiesta Village, Indian Trails, Wild Water Wilderness and The Boardwalk. Next to Knott's Berry Farm is Knott's Soak City U.S.A. water park.

San Diego Zoo

2920 Zoo Dr.
Balboa Park, San Diego, Calif.
(619) 234-3153
<http://www.sandiegozoo.org>

The San Diego Zoo is one of the largest zoos in the world and encompasses more than 100 landscaped acres of tropical and sub-

tropical vegetation. More than 4,000 animals from 800 species, some of which are the rarest specimens in the world, can be witnessed in their unique habitats without bars, in moated enclosures. A children's zoo allows children the chance to pet the gentler animals.

Sea World

500 Sea World Dr.
San Diego, Calif., (800) 25-SHAMU
<http://www.seaworld.org>

Sea World is one of California's most popular marine parks. The park's 189 acres are home to a vast array of sea life including Shamu, the world-famous, two-ton killer whale. Live shows include the antics of dolphins and sea lions. There are also several attractions including the Shark Encounter, a 280,000-gallon attraction featuring a 57-foot, walk-through acrylic tube running the length of the shark habitat. It contains hundreds of sand, tiger, bonnet-head, blacktip and whitetip sharks.

Six Flags Magic Mountain

26101 Magic Mountain Pkwy.
Valencia, Calif., (661) 255-4100
<http://www.sixflags.com/magicmountain>

Spread out over 260 acres, the amusement park offers more than 100 shows, attractions and rides to keep the whole family entertained. Adjacent to the amusement park is Six Flags Hurricane Harbor.

Universal Studios

100 Universal City Plaza
Universal City, Calif.
(800) UNIVERSAL
<http://www.universalstudios.com/unicity2>

Universal Studios allows visitors to sneak a peek behind the scenes of movie making. Tram rides through back lots and studios; costumes and props; sound stages and special effects demonstrations reveal the secrets of hit movies and television shows. Next door is Universal City Walk, featuring entertainment, dining and shopping.



Photo by Photos.com

BEACHES

The beautiful and diverse terrain along the California coast offers a wealth of activities to enjoy, many of which are readily accessible from California's Pacific Coast Highway, or California State Hwy. 1.

To the north, the water and weather can be rough, giving the coastline a rugged character. To the south, the water is calmer, the beaches are wider and the climate is more temperate.

Catalina Island

Visitors Bureau and Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 217
Avalon, Calif., 90704, (310) 510-1520
<http://www.visitcatalina.org>

Twenty-two miles across the ocean from mainland Los Angeles is Catalina Island. Discovered more than 400 years ago as a hideout for smugglers and pirates, the island is one of Southern California's most popular resorts. Avalon is the island's only city, and Avalon Bay is the site of the island's most famous landmark, the Casino Building. The island can be reached by sea or air, and there are a variety of express services available.

Los Angeles County

<http://beaches.co.la.ca.us>

Popular Los Angeles area beaches include Malibu, Santa Monica, Venice, Manhattan and Long Beach. Los Angeles County beaches offer swimming, surfing, sand volleyball, bike and roller blade paths, piers, fishing and numerous concessions. Public restrooms and showers are usually available.

Monterey, Big Sur and Morro Bay

<http://www.mpcc.com>, <http://www.bigsurcalifornia.org>, <http://www.morro-bay.net>

Big Sur is a favorite stretch of California coastline, between the towns of Carmel and Lucia. For approximately 50 miles, Pacific Coast Highway 1 winds between the Pacific Ocean and a redwood forest. The Santa Lucia Mountains rise steeply from the ocean, and the canyons contain groves of trees. Summer fogs can linger most of the day; the best time to experience the route is in the afternoon.

Ocean life – whales, dolphins, sea lions and frolicking sea otters – stems off the coast and is a common sight to see. Sea otters are found in great numbers from Monterey Bay to Morro Bay, while sea lions are commonly seen near the shore or on the rocks. Whale-watching is a popular pastime during the winter. Many seaside communities offer excursions to catch a close-up view of the California gray whale's annual 6,000-mile migration.

MILITARY LODGING

The following listing is not complete, but presents some of the more popular military lodging opportunities in and around Southern California.

Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base

San Diego, Calif.
(760) 725-5194/725-5304

Camp Pendleton's Ward Lodging is located 40 miles north of San Diego on Interstate 5.

China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station

China Lake, Calif., (760) 939-2383

China Lake is located 60 miles almost directly north of Edwards.

Coronado Naval Amphibious Base San Diego, Calif., (619) 437-3860

The island of Coronado and the naval base are located five miles south of San Diego. The accommodations are close to Coronado Beach, Sea World and many other San Diego attractions.

Fort Irwin National Training Center Fort Irwin, Calif., (760) 380-4599

The center is located roughly 55 miles northeast of San Bernardino, Calif., and north on Interstate 15 near Barstow.

Nellis Air Force Base Las Vegas, Nev., (888) AF-LODGE

Nellis' Air Force Inn is located eight miles northeast of Las Vegas.

North Island Naval Air Station San Diego, Calif., (800) NAVY-INN

North Island's Navy Lodge is located five miles southwest of San Diego.

Point Mugu Naval Air Station Point Mugu, Calif., (805) 989-8407

Point Mugu is located eight miles south of Oxnard, Calif., and 40 miles north of Santa Monica, Calif., on Pacific Coast Hwy. 1.

Port Hueneme Naval Construction Oxnard, Calif., (800) NAVY-INN

Port Hueneme's Navy Lodge is located 25 miles southeast of Santa Barbara, Calif.

San Diego Naval Submarine Base San Diego, Calif., (619) 553-9381

The submarine base's Dolphin Lodge and Inn is located within the city limits of San Diego.

Travis Air Force Base Travis Air Force Base, Calif. (888) AF-LODGE

Travis' West Wind Inn is located 45 miles northeast of San Francisco.

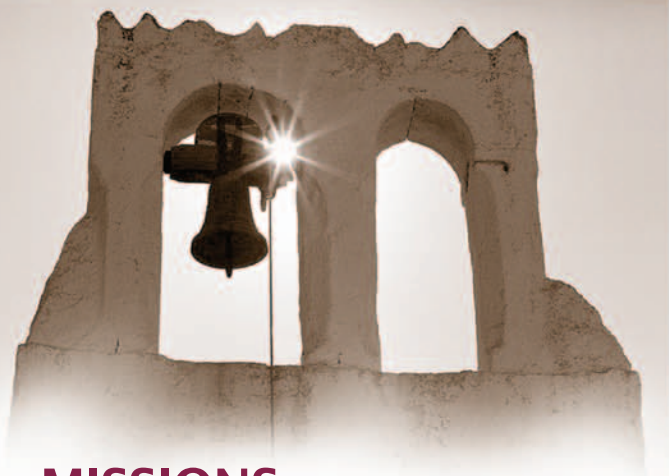
Vandenberg Air Force Base Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. (888) AF-LODGE

Vandenberg AFB, located 22 miles south of Santa Maria, Calif., offers accommodations at the Vandenberg Lodge.

San Diego

<http://www.sannet.gov/lifeguards/beaches>

The city of San Diego has about 17 miles of Pacific Ocean shores and is known nationwide for its beautiful beaches. Popular beaches in the area include La Jolla, Mission Beach, Pacific Beach and Coronado on Coronado Island. Recreational water activities such as surfing, "boogie" boarding, snorkeling, scuba diving and swimming are common at area beaches. Mission Bay Park has become a popular spot for visitors as well as area residents. The more than 4,200-acre aquatic park has beaches, bike trails, boat-launching ramps, a golf course, picnic grounds, playgrounds, resort hotels and restaurants. Most visitors usually plan a full day's activities here or just a relaxing day enjoying the sun and scenery.



MISSIONS

<http://www.ca-missions.org/contact.html>

In 1768, fearing that Russia or Britain would establish outposts in California, the Spanish formulated a plan of colonization by founding missions, forts and pueblos to secure the land for the Spanish crown.

Father Junipero Serra officiated the founding of the first establishment in San Diego. Eventually, a chain of 21 California missions would extend from San Diego to the San Francisco area. Communities have developed around most of the missions, but each – in its individual way – continues to perpetuate the flavor of the Spanish era. Every mission has its distinctive architecture and restful gardens. Many have rooms and even formal museums filled with picturesque artifacts which help visitors visualize the era when the missions were California's only points of Western European style civilization.

The missions are open to the public. Some offer individually guided tours, while others provide self-guided literature. Nominal admission charges or donations are requested.

MUSEUMS



Getty Center

1200 Getty Center Dr.

Los Angeles, Calif.

(310) 440-7330

<http://www.getty.edu/museum>

The Getty Center unites the J. Paul Getty Trust's museum, institutes and grant program in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains. The centerpiece of the 110-acre complex is the museum and its collections of pre-20th century European paintings, drawings, illuminated manuscripts, sculpture, decorative arts and photographs.

L.A. County Museum of Art

5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif., (323) 857-6000

<http://www.lacma.org>

The L.A. County Museum of Art is a five-building complex housing paintings, sculptures, costumes, textiles and decorative art from around the world. The collections comprise more than 150,000 works and span the history of art from ancient times to the present. In addition to presenting more than 30 exhibitions each year, the museum also sponsors concerts, film programs and lectures that complement its collections.

Movieland Wax Museum

7711 Beach Blvd.

Buena Park, Calif., (714) 522-1155

<http://www.movielandwaxmuseum.com/mwm.html>

Visitors can see their favorite film stars – at least wax-molded figures of them – one block north of Knott's Berry Farm. Some of the most memorable scenes in motion pictures are recreated in exacting detail.

Natural History Museum of L.A. County

900 Exposition Blvd.

Los Angeles, Calif., (213) 763-3466

<http://www.nhm.org>

The Natural History Museum has detailed habitats of African, North American and exotic mammals; birds, insects and marine life; dinosaur displays and prehistoric fossils; and mineral and cut gemstone collections. The Pavilion of Wings lets visitors walk among hundreds of free-fluttering butterflies. History galleries depict life in California from 1540 to present.

San Diego Aerospace Museum Aerospace Historical Center

2001 Pan American Plaza

Balboa Park, Calif., (619) 234-8291

<http://www.aerospacemuseum.org>

The history of aviation from the dawn of flight to the age of space travel is depicted through displays featuring early gliders, a Kitty Hawk Flyer, a Spirit of St. Louis replica, barnstorming, early mail planes, World War II aircraft, modern fighters and a NASA space capsule.

PARKS and RECREATION

Big Bear Lake

Big Bear Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 2860, 630 Bartlett Rd.
Big Bear Lake, Calif., 92315
(909) 866-4607
<http://www.bigbearchamber.com/trans.htm>

Big Bear Lake and Valley are located about 30 miles northeast of San Bernardino in the San Bernardino Mountains. Camping and horseback riding are popular in the summer. Hunting and fishing are permitted in season.

Death Valley National Park

Death Valley, Calif., (760) 786-3200
<http://www.nps.gov/deva>

Death Valley, located on the eastern edge of California, encompasses more than 3 million acres and has elevations ranging from 282 feet below sea level to 11,049 feet above sea level.

Sequoia and King's Canyon National Parks

47050 Generals Hwy.
Three Rivers, Calif., (559) 565-3341
<http://www.nps.gov/seki>

Home of the largest trees in the world, King's Canyon and Sequoia National Parks are open year-round. Bus tours within the parks are available daily in the summer.

Yosemite National Park

Yosemite National Park, Calif.
<http://www.nps.gov/yose/home.htm>

Yosemite's landscape spans about 1,189 square miles of park land. Visitors can witness Yosemite Falls, which plummet 2,425 feet—11 times further than Niagara and Half Dome, a structure halved by moving ice masses millions of years ago. The park lies in central California on the western slope of the Sierra Nevadas and serves as a getaway for hiking and camping activities.

Bear Mountain and Snow Summit Ski Resorts

Big Bear Lake, Calif.
(800) BEARMTN and
(888) SUMMIT1
<http://www.bigbearmountainresorts.com>

June Mountain Ski Resort

June Lake, Calif., (888) JUNEMTN
<http://www.junemountain.com>

VINEYARDS

Agua Dulce Vineyards

Agua Dulce, Calif., (661) 268-7402
<http://www.aguadulcevineyards.com>
Agua Dulce, Spanish for "sweet water," is located about 25 minutes from the Antelope Valley, south on the Antelope Valley Freeway. Appointments may be made for wine tasting and tours.

Antelope Valley Winery

Lancaster, Calif., (888) AV2-8332
<http://www.avwinery.com>
Located in Lancaster at the intersection of Ave. M and 20th St. W., this is a family owned winery specializing in the production of premium quality proprietary and varietal wines. Antelope Valley Winery is open seven days a week.

Napa Valley

Napa, Calif.
<http://www.napavintners.com>
Wine is made all over California, but the term "Wine Country" is associated with Napa and Sonoma Counties. The area is located northeast of San Francisco and has been made famous for the hundreds of wineries found in the region. State Rd. 29 runs throughout the valley and passes many well-known vintners.

Paso Robles Wine Country

Paso Robles, Calif.
<http://www.pasowine.com>
Paso Robles Wine Country is one of the fastest growing premium vineyards and winery regions in California, with the number of bonded wineries and wine grape acres in Paso Robles more than doubling between 1993 and 2002. Paso Robles is situated 20 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean, literally halfway between Los Angeles and San Francisco, and, because of this location, is in the center of the Central Coast wine region, which spans from Monterey County to the north and to Santa Barbara County to the south.

Santa Barbara County Wine Country

Santa Barbara, Calif.
<http://www.sbcountywines.com>
Santa Barbara County has a history of winemaking and wine grape growing spanning 200 years, with the area enjoying a renaissance in the last 25 years. There are now more than 62 wineries in Santa Barbara County, located primarily in the Santa Ynez and Santa Maria Valleys. Most of the wineries are small businesses, run by individuals or families. More than a million cases of wine are produced annually.

Sonoma County Wine

<http://www.sonomawine.com>
Nestled between the rugged Pacific Coast on the west and rolling hills and mountains on the east, Sonoma County offers a grand landscape of beautiful valleys and winding roads to explore. Visitors may taste wines at grand châteaux or small converted barns; sample fresh fruits and vegetables along farm trails; enjoy a matching of Sonoma County wines and foods prepared in the local restaurants and then retire to cozy bed and breakfast inns or world class hotels and spas.

The diversity of the countryside provides activities to all ages—fishing, whale watching, hot air ballooning, cycling, golf, canoeing, antique hunting or shopping our art trails.

Temecula Valley Wine Country

Temecula, Calif.
<http://www.temeculawines.org>
Mist often lingers until midmorning on this 1,400-foot plateau, located below the peaks of the local mountain range. The word "Temecula" is from the Luiseno Indian language meaning where the sun shines through the mist. Since 1966, premium quality wine grapes have been grown in the Temecula Valley with more than 20 wineries now located in the appellation. In addition to growing award-winning Chardonnay, Merlot and Sauvignon Blanc, more recently the wineries produce Mediterranean varietals like Viognier, Syrah and Pinot Gris. The remarkable success of these varietals has produced many awards and medals of excellence in domestic and international competitions.

SKIING

Mammoth Ski Resort

Mammoth Lakes, Calif., (800) MAMMOTH
<http://www.mammoth-mtn.com>

Mount Baldy Ski Resort

Upland, Calif., (909) 981-3344
<http://www.mtbaldy.com>

Mountain High Ski Resort

Wrightwood, Calif.
(888) 754-7878
<http://www.mthigh.com>

Snow Valley Ski Resort

Running Springs, Calif.
(909) 867-2751
<http://www.snow-valley.com>